

Message Text

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15

ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 /088 W

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R 110817Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3428

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 8953

BEIRUT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, IZ, IR

SUBJ: FURTHER INFORMATION ON PLANNED REPATRIATION OF KURDISH
REFUGEES

REF: TEHRAN 8585

1. KURDISH REFUGEE MOHSIN DIZAYEE, FORMER IRAQI MINISTER OF WORKS
AND HOUSING AND EX-AMBASSADOR TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND CANADA, VIS-
ITED EMBASSY SEPTEMBER 10 AND PROVIDED FURTHER INFORMATION ON STATUS
OF KURDISH REFUGEES. HE STATED THAT SUBSEQUENT TO VISIT OF
IRAQI MINISTER OF YOUTH TO KURDISH REFUGEE CAMPS, GOVERN-
MENTS HAD REACHED AGREEMENT THAT ROUGHLY HALF
OF THE KURDISH REFUGEES IN IRAN WOULD BE REPATRIATED
ONLY STIPULATION MADE BY IRAQIS WAS THAT MOVEMENT BE DELAYED
UNTIL AFTER SEPTEMBER 30 WHEN REFUGEE CAMPS IN SOUTHERN IRAQ
WOULD BE READY TO RECEIVE THEIR NEW OCCUPANTS. IRANIAN OFFICIALS
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SAID SOME 14,000 KURDISH REFUGEES HAD ASKED TO RETURN,

A FIGURE HE THOUGHT WAS CLOSER TO 10,000. IN ORDER TO CONVINCE MORE REFUGEES TO VOLUNTEER TO RETURN, IRANIAN AUTHORITIES FIRST ASKED KURDISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEMBERS TO SPEAK TO CAMP INMATES, BUT WERE NOW RELYING ON SAVAK OFFICIALS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO SEEK REPATRIATION. ACCORDING TO DIZAYEE, REFUGEES WOULD VOLUNTEER IN GREATER NUMBERS IF THEY WERE ONLY PERMITTED RETURN TO THEIR ORIGINAL HOMES RATHER THAN BEING RESETTLED IN SOUTHERN IRAQ. PLANS WERE TO ROUTE REFUGEES THROUGH QASR SHIRAIN TO THREE IRAQI DISTRICTS OF DIWANIEH, SAMWA, AND RUMADI. UPON ARRIVING AT BORDER, REFUGEES WOULD BE ASKED TO SIGN ONE OF FOLLOWING TWO STATEMENTS:

(A) I THANK THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN FOR ITS HOSPITALITY DURING MY STAY AND HEREBY VOLUNTARILY REQUEST THAT I BE PERMITTED TO RETURN TO IRAQ.

(B) I DO NOT DESIRE TO RETURN TO IRAQ. I WILL ABIDE BY THE LAWS OF IRAN, AND IF I VIOLATE THEM I UNDERSTAND THAT I WILL BE RETURNED TO IRAQ.

2. ASKED ABOUT CURRENT SITUATION OF KURDISH REFUGEES DIZAYEE SAID IRANIANS WERE CONTINUING TO EXERT SUBTLE PRESSURE TO URGE REFUGEES TO RETURN TO IRAQ. ONE FORM OF PRESSURE WAS TO IGNORE INCREASED NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN SOME CAMPS AND REQUIRE THAT ORIGINAL AMOUNT OF FOOD SUPPLIES BE SHARED AMONG GROWING CAMP POPULATION. PAYMENT OF ALLOWANCES TO REFUGEES HAD BEEN TERMINATED AS OF MAY 20. DIZAYEE ADDED FAMILIAR RECITATION OF POOR IRANIAN PLANNING OF RESETTLEMENT AREAS, BUT MADE NEW CHARGE IRANIAN OFFICIALS WERE SPLITTING UP FAMILIES WHEN THEY ASSIGNED PEOPLE TO RESETTLEMENT AREAS.

3. COMMENT: INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DIZAYEE SQUARES VERY CLOSELY WITH THAT FROM IRANIAN OFFICIALS PROVIDED IN REFTEL. IRANIAN GENDARMERIE TROOPS ARRAYED ALONG BORDER IN KURDISH AREAS ON "TRAINING EXERCISES" BUT IN FACT ARE ALERT FOR POSSIBLE DISTURBANCES IN REFUGEE CAMPS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, KURDS, REPATRIATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEHRAN08953
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750314-1029
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750960/aaaacbf.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER INFORMATION ON PLANNED REPATRIATION OF KURDISH
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, IZ, IR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006